

**HIGHLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STUDY SESSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, April 22, 2009**

The Highland Redevelopment Commission (“RC”, “Commission”) met in Study Session on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at 6:42 PM in the Upper Conference Room within the Municipal Building at 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana. The Study Session was called to order by Commissioner Dominic Noce. The minutes were prepared by Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director.

ROLL CALL: Commissioners present on silent roll call included Dominic Noce, Greg Kuzmar, and Selena Rich. Also in attendance were School Town of Highland appointed Commissioner Luanne Jurczak and Substitute for the School Town of Highland Lawrence Vassar, Economic Development Commissioner George VandeWerken, Town Councilman Bernie Zemen, and Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro. Commissioners Adam Gawlikowski and Tom Crowel were absent with notice.

General Substance of the Study Session

1. Lighting on Kennedy Avenue

Director Petro presented three options for lighting on Kennedy Avenue: 1) no additional expenditure for lights—only silver cobra lights; 2) \$350,000 for LED decorative LED cobra style lights; and 3) select from a menu of options including: a) 50 cobra style LED lights, b) ornamental or adonized cobra poles, c) run circuitry for future LED decorative lights, d) design costs, and e) contingencies. The Commission decided to hold a public meeting on Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at 4:00 PM to approve lighting options. The Director will notice the meeting.

2. Commercial Realtor Luncheon

The luncheon is scheduled for April 30, 2009 at 11:00 am at the Hi-Fi Roadhouse restaurant on 45th Street in Highland. The Director presented the draft agenda and a list of sandwich choices available to the guests. Attendees will select from the menu upon entering and registering. Commissioners Rich and Jurczak volunteered to work the registration table. The rest of the Commission will welcome and greet the attendees. NIPSCO has agreed to subsidize the luncheon and Diane Thalmann, the Economic Development Manager with NIPSCO will present the NIPSCO/State website which lists properties for sale and lease. Karen Lauerma from the NW Indiana Forum will print special name tags and provide information on the Forum and the Build Indiana conference to be held on May 7, 2009 at the Avalon in Merrillville, Indiana.

3. Design Standards

The Director updated the Commission on the design standards. The attorney for the Plan Commission is reviewing a letter outlining the proposed changes in the design standard document. Once this is approved, the letter will be sent to the consultant, Wight Company, requesting changes in the document and in the document on-line. A final hard copy will be available for the public to review before the Plan Commission's public hearing. In addition, notices will have to be sent to all property owners in the Redevelopment Area before the public hearing.

4. May 2009 meeting Rescheduled

The Commission will hold their regularly scheduled May meeting on May 20, 2009 instead of May 13, 2009. The Director requested a change of meeting date due to a conflict.

5. Bult Oil Property

Ms. Petro asked the Commission members to sign-up for the date they were available for a press conference on the Bult Oil site. All members could make the May 21, 2009 date.

6. Expansion and Development in Highland

The Director requested the attendance of two Redevelopment Commissioners at a meeting with a potential developer on May 4, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the town hall.

7. Business Attraction and Expansion in Highland

The Director updated the Commission on business attraction and expansion efforts in Highland.

The Study Session was adjourned at 8:10 PM.